



#6^{5C}
4/5/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named
Inventor : Simon H. Corston-Oliver

Appln. No.: 09/336,200

Filed : June 18, 1999

For : SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING THE
PERFORMANCE OF INFORMATION
RETRIEVAL-TYPE TASKS BY
IDENTIFYING THE RELATIONS OF
CONSTITUENTS

Docket No.: M61.12-0099

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Group Art Unit: 2175

Examiner: T. Pardo

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2100

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING
SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS

14 DAY OF March, 2002

PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on
February 12, 2002 in which claims 1-66 were restricted to the
following groups:

Group I:

Claims 1-35 and 62-66, drawn to a method and apparatus
for determining a relationship between first and second textual inputs
of retrieving information, classified in Class 707, subclass 4.

Group II:

Claims 36-40, and 44, drawn to a method of generating
an index corresponding to a first textual corpus, classified in Class
707, subclass 101.

Group III:

Claims 45-51 and 57-61, drawn to a method of
identifying a hierarchy threshold in relation hierarchy corresponding
to a textual input, classified in Class 707, subclass 102.



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Group IV:

Claims 52-56, drawn to a method of identifying cases information corresponding to constituents in a textual input, classified in Class 707, subclass 3.

In the restriction requirement the Examiner indicated the claims fell within four separate groups. However, upon review of the claims contained in each of the groups the undersigned noticed that claims 41-43 were not indicated as being a member of any group. Therefore, the undersigned is unable to make an election with regards to these claims. However, the undersigned believes that the subject matter of claims 41-43 would be grouped with the subject matter of Group I.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute claims of Group I (claims 1-35, ⁴¹⁻⁴³ and 62-66) of the present application without traverse and withdraw the remaining claims with the exception of claims 41-43 from further consideration.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

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JRK:NMR:slg